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Advances in Primatology

Series Editors: W. Patrick Luckett and Charles Noback

Comparative Biology and Evolutionary Relationships of Tree Shrews

Edited by W. Patrick Luckett, *Department of Anatomy, Creighton University*

Tree shrews are small, scansorial, squirrel-like mammals that occupy a wide range of arboreal, semi-arboreal, and forest floor niches in Southeast Asia and adjacent islands. Comparative studies of these mammals over the past two decades have provided valuable insights into the evolutionary origins of primate behavior, locomotion, neurobiology, and reproduction. Additionally, analyses of the evolutionary relationships of tree shrews have been a major stimulus to investigations into the origin and phylogeny of primates. The present volume evaluates the possible evolutionary relationships of tree shrews to primates and other eutherian mammals, and considers the use of tree shrews as models for the study of various primate organ systems.

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Evolutionary Biology of the New World Monkeys and Continental Drift

Edited by *Russell L. Ciochon, University of North Carolina at Charlotte* and *A. B. Chiarelli, Institute of Anthropology, Turin, Italy*

During the 1960s, the concept of continental drift became established theory. Soon after this revolutionary advance, researchers began applying the

continental drift model to problems in historical biogeography—including the origin and dispersal of the New World monkeys, or Platyrrhini. The postulated repositioning of African and South American continents in the early Cenozoic era demanded new scrutiny of traditional concepts involving a North American origin of the Platyrrhini.

The present volume provides such scrutiny, examining two crucial questions in the process. The first question centers around the phylogenetic descent of the Platyrrhini, exploring the controversy of whether the great similarity between living Platyrrhini and the Old World Catarrhini is the result of parallel evolution or relatively recent common ancestry. Intimately tied to these phylogenetic questions is a second problem: the Platyrrhini's geographic source. Did the ancestors of the Platyrrhini come from a single biogeographic source or were there multiple dispersals from one source: Was that source a Northern Hemisphere continent or can the origin of the Platyrrhini be thought of as a purely Southern Hemisphere event?

Evolutionary Biology of the New World Monkeys and Continental Drift does much to synthesize new data and delineate future areas of investigation in this controversial area of primate research. *Proceedings of the VII Congress of the International Primatological Society, Bangalore, India.*

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